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Chrono

OLC 72-0719

16 June 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Legislative Interdepartmental Group Meeting re
Congressional Briefings on SALT

1. Today, Mr. Bruce Clarke, D/OSR, and I attended the above meeting at 0915 hours in the White House Situation Room. In the absence of Mr. Clark MacGregor, who was tied up in a Cabinet meeting, John Lehman presided. Other participants included:

White House

Tom Korologos
Richard Cook

State

Marshall Wright
Charles Brower

Defense

George Dalferes
Zane Finkelstein

ACDA

Spurgeon Keeny
William Hancock

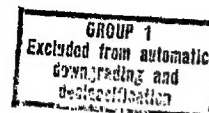
AEC

Thomas Clark

USIA

Charles Ablard

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2. Mr. Lehman opened by asking whether the Director would be prepared to speak in open session on verification. I said definitely not, pointing out the very troublesome precedent this would establish and the difficulty of discussing anything meaningful about verification on an unclassified basis. Several others present agreed, pointing out that sanitized testimony on verification would be so weak as to be counter-productive.


3. In the ensuing discussion a great deal of discussion was devoted to the wording of the Joint Resolution in support of the SALT agreement. Three versions were examined--those introduced by Senators Fulbright, Mansfield and Boggs.

4. When asked what the Director would say in his testimony next week, Mr. Clarke and I explained that no final text had been prepared and none could be until we had gotten further guidance from the Foreign Relations Committee as to precisely what they wished covered. We said we presumed such guidance would be provided in a meeting with Bill Ashworth, of the Foreign Relations Committee staff, but all we knew definitely to date was the Committee wanted to be updated on Soviet strategic weapons. We said we assumed that verification would certainly be brought up in one way or another.

5. It was suggested that regardless of the coordination of the substance of the Director's testimony, at least a simple prepared statement should be coordinated among the various agencies concerned which the Director could give in explaining the degree of reliance which can safely be placed in national means of verification.

6. In conclusion we were asked to obtain, and make available to the agencies involved, a copy of the transcript of the Director's testimony as soon as possible after his appearance on Tuesday, 20 June 1972.

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JOHN M. MAURY
Legislative Counsel

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